

Troopers Arrest Ellendale Man on Drug and Weapon Charges Following Pursuit -Seaford

Seaford- The Delaware State Police have arrested 25-year-old **Qualeel Westcott** after a pursuit led to the discovery of drugs and a weapon.

The incident occurred on February 3, 2020 at approximately 1:24 a.m., when a Trooper observed a gray Honda traveling southbound on USR 13 approaching Elks Lodge Road, Seaford at a high rate of speed. A traffic stop was initiated when the male operator failed to stop and continued to flee from police, traveling at a high rate of speed and violating multiple traffic violations. The vehicle eventually came to a stop behind a private residence's out building located in the 20000 block of Sanfilippo Road. The Trooper made contact with a female occupant who was seated in the driver's seat. During the pursuit the Trooper observed a male operating the vehicle. The original driver observed, **Qualeel Westcott**, was now seated in the passengers seat. Also located in the vehicle were three children ages 7, 4, and 3 who were not properly restrained. While speaking with Westcott, the Trooper observed signs of impairment and a DUI investigation ensued. A computer inquiry revealed that Westcott's license was revoked and he was a person prohibited from possessing a firearm or ammunition.

A search was conducted in the vicinity of the vehicle and the following was located:

- A loaded silver Bersa Thunder 380 with five rounds in the clip
- Approximately 1.7 grams of crack cocaine
- Approximately 1.08 grams of marijuana

Westcott and the 30-year-old female of Harrington, DE were taken into custody and transported back to Troop 5 without further incident.

Qualeel Westcott was charged with the following:

- Possession of a Firearm or Ammunition By a Person Prohibited
- Disregarding a Police Officer Signal
- Possession of Marijuana
- Endangering the Welfare of a Child While DUI (3 counts)
- Possession of a Controlled or Counterfeit Substance
- Driving While Suspended or Revoked
- Reckless Driving
- Driving a Vehicle Under the Influence
- Criminal Trespass Third Degree
- Multiple related traffic violations

Westcott was arraigned before the Justice of the Peace Court and committed to the Sussex Correctional Institution on \$10106.00 secured bond.

The 30-year-old female was charged with misdemeanor charges and released on unsecured bond.

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*Presented by Public Information Officer, Master Corporal
Melissa Jaffe*

Released: 020320 1214

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